Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/941,250	SMITH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Allen C. Ho	2882	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *amendment filed on 19 July 2004*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-24*.

3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No./Mail Date *092002*.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-24 are allowed over the prior art.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claims 1, 4-6, 16, and 17, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising an upwardly extending, floor-supported column supporting a digital flat panel x-ray receptor, wherein the receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, and wherein the receptor and at least one x-ray source are mounted on separate supports for movement independent from each other as claimed in claim 1.

With regard to claims 2, 18, and 19, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising a first track supporting a first downwardly extending telescoping column that supports an x-ray source for movement up and down, about the first up-down axis, and about a first lateral axis transverse to the first up-down axis, a second track supporting a second downwardly extending telescoping column that supports the receptor, wherein the receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, and wherein the tracks are spaced from each other as claimed in claim 2.

With regard to claims 3, 20, and 21, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising a track supporting a downwardly extending telescoping column that supports a digital flat panel x-ray receptor, wherein the

receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, and wherein the track being spaced apart from the supporting structure for the x-ray source as claimed in claim 3.

With regard to claims 7-9 and 22, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising an upwardly extending, floor-supported column supporting a digital flat panel x-ray receptor, wherein the receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, including up and down along an upwardly extending axis, about the same or different upwardly extending axis, and about a lateral axis transverse to the axis along which the receptor moves up and down, and wherein the receptor and at least one x-ray source are mounted on separate supports for movements independent of each other as claimed in claim 7.

With regard to claims 10-12 and 23, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising a first track supporting a first downwardly extending telescoping column that supports an x-ray source for movement up and down, about a first up-down axis, and about a first lateral axis transverse to the first up-down axis, a second track supporting a second downwardly extending telescoping column that supports a digital flat panel x-ray source, wherein the receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, including up and down, about a second up-down axis, and about a second lateral axis transverse to the second up-down axis as clamed in claim 10.

With regard to claims 13-15 and 24, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a system positioning a digital flat panel x-ray receptor comprising a track supporting a downwardly extending telescoping column that supports a digital flat panel x-ray receptor, wherein the receptor moves in at least two translational and three rotational motions, including up and down,

about an up-down axis, and about a lateral axis transverse to the up-down axis as claimed in claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 19 July 2004 with respect to drawings have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objection of drawings has been withdrawn.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen C. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-2491. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached at (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Allen C. Ho

Allen C. Ho
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2882